



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

**REPI**READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

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**REPI Newsletter | February 2023 Edition**

Please see below for news and upcoming announcements relevant to the REPI community! If you would like to have an announcement featured in next month's newsletter or are interested in ways to partner with the REPI Program, connect with us at [osd.repi@mail.mil](mailto:osd.repi@mail.mil). For more information about the REPI Program and supportive Department of Defense (DOD) efforts, please visit [www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil).

If this message was forwarded to you and you would like to subscribe to our listserv, please [click here](#).

**Message from the Director**

Dear REPI Partners and Stakeholders,

As we near the end of February, 2023 is already shaping up to be a busy and exciting year for the REPI Program! In January, we saw the combined benefits of partnerships through the announcement of the 2023 REPI Challenge project recipients. Our office was thrilled to announce that the REPI Program contributed nearly \$24 million in REPI funds, coupled with \$50 million in partner contributions to advance innovative projects that enhance military installation resilience and relieve current or anticipated environmental restrictions. By distributing funds across these 13 projects, partners across the country will

undertake projects benefiting 26 installations and their neighboring communities.

The REPI Challenge distributes funds annually to projects that provide innovative approaches to protecting the military mission. Since 2012, the REPI Challenge has distributed nearly \$144 million in REPI Program funds, leveraged with over \$417 million in partner contributions to protect 51 locations with projects promoting compatible land use, restoring important habitats, and enhancing species recovery and climate adaptation efforts. If you're interested in learning more about this year's REPI Challenge funding recipients, visit [www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil). Our office will also be hosting a REPI Challenge Project Spotlight webinar today from 1:00 – 2:30 PM Eastern Time where you can hear directly from the 2023 project recipients.

There's no shortage of exciting news, and we're looking forward to sharing the latest developments, plus what's coming down the pipeline for the REPI Program. Our office has also been preparing the annual Report to Congress, launching a new Sentinel Landscapes designation cycle, co-hosting a DOD Climate Resilience Workshop, and continuing partner and stakeholder engagements.

If you're looking to get involved or are interested in learning more about the REPI Program or the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership, visit [www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil) or [www.sentinellandscapes.org](http://www.sentinellandscapes.org) to stay connected!

Best,

Kristin Thomasgard  
REPI Program Director

## **Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment Updates**

The REPI Program would like to share the appointment of the new Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment (ASD(EI&E)), Mr. Brendan Owens. Mr. Owens was sworn into his new role on January 26, 2023, and serves as the principal advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (A&S) for all matters relating to energy, installations, and the environment, including operational and facility energy, installation maintenance, and environmental planning.

Also in January, A&S released the 2022 Year in Review, which highlights the work of the Department's activities in support of the National Defense Strategy. The A&S Year in Review spotlights the REPI Program's accomplishments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022,

including the announcement of the REPI Program surpassing 1 million acres of permanent land protection and distributing record funding to more than 60 projects at installations and ranges across the country. In 2023, the REPI Program looks forward to continuing to work with partners and the Military Services to enhance the Nation's defense capabilities and positively impact surrounding communities. Read the full [A&S Year in Review here](#).

## Save the Dates! Partner Funding Opportunities



### OLDCC Hosts DCIP Pre-Proposal Webinar

The DOD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) will host a webinar tomorrow, February 16, at 3:00 PM Eastern Time for states and communities interested in the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP). The DCIP Program is designed to address deficiencies in community infrastructure and support military installations to enhance military value, installation resilience, and military family quality of life. For communities interested in submitting pre-proposals, OLDCC DCIP's website strongly recommends starting proposals as soon as possible. For more information on the DCIP grant process, visit the [OLDCC website here](#).

### America the Beautiful Challenge 2023 Request for Proposals

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) anticipates announcing the 2023 Request for Proposals (RFP) for the America the Beautiful Challenge in late February. In 2022, NFWF established the America the Beautiful Challenge, a grant opportunity combining public-private conservation and restoration funding to advance large-scale projects. This program invests in restoring watersheds, forests, and grasslands while working

toward other goals consistent with the America the Beautiful Initiative, including enhancing climate resilience, equitable access to the outdoors, workforce development, migration corridors, habitat connectivity, and collaborative conservation. Applicants will be encouraged to develop large-scale, cross-jurisdictional projects that advance existing conservation plans. For all REPI and sentinel landscape partners interested in the proposal process, please mark your calendars and track the 2023 RFP on [NFWF's website](#).

## National Association of Counties 2023 Legislative Conference



Partnerships are a significant component of the REPI Program and the framework for preserving and enhancing the Department's mission while protecting and sustaining critical landscapes, habitats and species, and enhancing installation resilience across the country. Across the local, state, and federal levels, REPI Program partnerships provide expanded opportunities for installations to leverage funding, resources, and expertise from organizations with shared priorities.

Recognizing this essential role that partnerships play in the program's framework, the REPI Office is excited to engage with partners and stakeholders at events, conferences, and site visits this year. To kick off 2023, the REPI Office partnered with NACo during its annual Legislative Conference held in Washington, DC, from February 10-14. With nearly 500 counties serving as home to at least one military installation, strong partnerships at the local level are critical to sustaining county-military coexistence. During the annual Legislative Conference, the REPI Program hosted a



Listening Session with the Counties of Hawai'i. This important listening session brought together County leaders from Hawai'i and DOD representatives to discuss resource conservation efforts around local military installations. The REPI Office looks forward to continuing to partner with NACo and the Counties of Hawai'i to strengthen military and county partnerships that will encourage knowledge-sharing across counties that are interested in pursuing REPI funding and engaging with DOD to promote mission sustainability and resilience.

During the NACo Legislative Conference, the REPI Program and the Defense Noise Working Group participated in the first-ever Federal Agency Exposition & Lunch. The Federal Exposition hosted over 70 federal agencies and provided a valuable forum to discuss the unique role that local governments play in intergovernmental partnerships.

If you would like more information on partnering with the REPI Program for an upcoming event or if your organization is interested in partnering to host an event, please reach out to the REPI Office at [osd.repi@mail.mil](mailto:osd.repi@mail.mil).

## **Sentinel Landscapes Partnership Announces 10-Year Anniversary**



The Sentinel Landscapes Partnership is thrilled to announce the 10-year anniversary of the partnership. A collaborative effort between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, DOD, Department of the Interior, and their on-the-ground partners, the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership has helped address complex land-use challenges in sentinel landscapes across the United States through combining resources and aligning funding. The partnership continues to work with landowners and land managers to strengthen military readiness, conserve natural resources, bolster agricultural and forestry economies, increase public access to outdoor recreation, and enhance resilience to climate change.

The Sentinel Landscapes Partnership will be marking their anniversary with special events throughout 2023. Please [sign up here](#) for their newsletter to receive the latest updates and announcements from the partnership.

## Upcoming Events



### Save the Date! DOD Climate Resilience Workshop

The Offices of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment are pleased to invite you to attend the 2023 DOD Climate Resilience Workshop from July 10-13 in St. Louis, Missouri. This workshop will provide a forum for DOD stakeholders and partners to explore the many facets of climate change, a national security threat that has tangible impacts to military readiness. Installations, environmental organizations, and climate change professionals will be broadly represented to help inform the Military Departments on data, tools, and resources for addressing and combatting climate change threats.

To stay informed on the latest workshop updates, including registration information, sign up for updates on the event website at [www.dodclimateworkshop.org](http://www.dodclimateworkshop.org).

### Newly Released! 2023 REPI Program and Sentinel Landscapes Partnership Webinar Series

The REPI Program and Sentinel Landscapes Partnership recently announced the 2023 Webinar Series! The REPI Program webinars will bring together installations and partners throughout the year to discuss efforts that support military missions, advance landscape conservation, and enhance military installation resilience to climate change. The Sentinel Landscapes Partnership webinars are designed to educate stakeholders and the general public on projects or initiatives occurring within the sentinel landscapes community. The webinars will include topics that will be useful for any prospective or current REPI project whether your installation is involved in a sentinel landscape or not.

All webinars will be from 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM Eastern Time, and recordings will be posted to the REPI website afterward. To view the series or for detailed webinar descriptions and connection instructions, please visit [www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil).

## REPI News Roundup



Below is media coverage featuring REPI partnerships that serve as an innovative way to address land use and resource challenges that threaten military readiness while enhancing relationships with communities and

preserving the environment.

### **Case Announces More than \$28.5 Million to Protect Hawai'i's Natural Resources**

MauiNow (Maui, Hawai'i) reports that Congressman Ed Case announced a combined total of \$10 million in federal funding from the Department of Defense (DOD) to implement four natural resource conservation projects under DOD's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program. The funds will be matched with \$18.5 million in private partner contributions to improve coastal, forest, and watershed resilience on military-utilized lands and nearby communities.

### **\$3 Million to Help Protect Wildlife on Lanai**

The Maui News (Maui, Hawai'i) reports that through the REPI Program, \$2.9 million in Federal funds will increase the resilience of endangered wildlife on Lanai, Hawai'i. These funds are a portion of a combined \$10 million coming from the Department of Defense (DOD) to implement four natural resource conservation projects under DOD's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program for restoration and recovery projects on O'ahu, Kaua'i, and Hawai'i Island.

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